

United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

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31 August 1992

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Secretary-General arrives in Jakarta to attend Non-Aligned Summit Conference; meets with Chairman of Supreme National Council for Cambodia, Norodom Sihanouk, and Presidents of Senegal and Zimbabwe.
- + Secretary-General's Special Representative for Yugoslavia, Cyrus Vance, says Conference on Former Yugoslavia held last week in London joined activities of United Nations and European Community into one peace-building body.
- + Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Relief Operations, Jan Eliasson, protests incident in Iraq involving bomb found under United Nations vehicle to Iraqi Permanent Representative to United Nations.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who arrived yesterday in Jakarta to attend the Non-Aligned Summit Conference, met today with Norodom Sihanouk, Chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, to whom he reaffirmed his support, as well as the commitment of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), to carry out its mandate and to implement phase two of the Cambodia cease-fire despite the opposition of one of the four parties.

The Secretary-General then held a meeting with President Abdou Diouf of Senegal during which he stressed the importance of the cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations. (President Diouf is the current President of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and the Organization of African Unity (OAU)). The Secretary-General, in that context, mentioned the participation of the OIC in the International Conference on Former Yugoslavia, just held in London. He also pointed to the role of the OAU, the League of Arab States and the OIC, in efforts to bring peace to Somalia, as another example of such cooperation. The Secretary-General and the President agreed that they held similar views on the question of cooperation among international and regional organizations. In this spirit of cooperation, President Diouf sought the assistance of the United Nations in solving the problem of Liberia.

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The Secretary-General also met with President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe with whom he discussed Somalia, Mozambique, Libya and the situation in southern Africa. President Mugabe thanked the United Nations for its efforts to promote a rapprochement between the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) "to achieve a new Convention for a Democratic South Africa".

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The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Yugoslavia, Cyrus Vance, told correspondents today that the International Conference on the Former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, held last week in London, had been "useful" and had resulted in a number of important actions.

At a press briefing at Headquarters, Mr. Vance welcomed in particular the decision that activities of the European Community and the United Nations would be melded together into "one single body" thus bringing together peace-keeping, peace-making and peace-building for the future. He also welcomed the presence of a broad cross-section of the international community in London and participants from the former Yugoslavia.

According to a United Nations spokesman today, the Secretary-General had described the Conference as "a demonstration of good cooperation between the United Nations and European Community". Mr. Boutros-Ghali had welcomed the fact that the Conference had started an institutional peace process which would unfold on a continuous basis at United Nations Headquarters in Geneva, under the co-chairmanship of Cyrus Vance and of Lord Owen, the representative of the European Community.

Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations, Marrack Goulding, Commander of the United Nations Protection Force in Yugoslavia (UNPROFOR), General Satish Nambiar and Cedric Thornberry, head of Civilian Affairs, had met today with the President of Croatia and with the head of the EC monitoring mission, as well as with the Acting Special Envoy of the United Nations Commissioner for Refugees in Zagreb, the Spokesman said.

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Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Relief Operations, Jan Eliasson, has protested an incident in Iraq involving a bomb found under a United Nations vehicle. The protest was made to the Iraqi Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Abdul Amir A. Al-Anbari.

According to a United Nations spokesman, acts of harassment had continued today against United Nations personnel in Baghdad. Mr. Eliasson had informed the Secretary-General of the situation, and they were considering "what action should be taken". Meanwhile, he said, the United Nations guards and personnel in Iraq were under "maximum security".

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

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1 September 1992

T U E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- + Secretary-General discusses role of Non-Aligned Movement in aftermath of decolonization and end of east-west confrontation; calls on non-aligned countries to "help United Nations to meet enormous challenges facing it".
- + Croatia asks that question of international help for that country - "to alleviate the consequences of war" -- be considered by forthcoming session of General Assembly.
- + Security Council agrees to maintain existing deployment and staffing of United Nations Mission for Referendum in Western Sahara as proposed by Secretary-General.
- + Human Rights Subcommission adopts 21 texts on East Timor, states of emergency, rights of indigenous peoples, and other issues.
- + Ninth United Nations international non-governmental organizations meeting concludes by adopting declaration.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said today that despite the era of decolonization and the "rapprochement" between the major power blocs in the world there was still a role for the Non-Aligned Movement.

Addressing the Summit of non-aligned countries in Jakarta, Indonesia, the Secretary-General said some people were inclined to believe that those changes had deprived the Non-Aligned Movement of the twin reasons for its existence. This view, he said, was mistaken; the enterprise of the Movement was constantly becoming "more topical and modern".

Neither decolonization nor the dislocation of the blocs had "erased the phenomena of power", he said. The temptation to dominate, either regionally or worldwide, remained -- and it threatened the weaker and poorer States which were still the majority in the world.

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Mr Boutros-Ghali said the principles on which the Movement was founded -- non-alignment in the east-west confrontation; support for anti-colonial struggles; non-participation in multilateral military alliances or any bilateral alliance with a super-Power, and refusal to accommodate super-Power military bases -- also buttressed the United Nations.

Calling on the Non-Aligned Movement to help the United Nations "to meet the enormous challenges facing it", the Secretary-General said he needed its support in tackling the eradication of poverty, and he cited three occasions in the coming years which would provide opportunities for working together -- next year's World Conference on Human Rights; the World Conference on Women, to be held in 1994, and then -- in the year of the next summit meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement -- the observance, in 1995, of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations.

While in Jakarta, the Secretary-General held meetings with a number of leaders attending the Summit. The President of Afghanistan, Professor Burhanuddin Rabbani, requested United Nations humanitarian and technical assistance, in particular in the fields of water and electricity, where the infrastructure had been completely destroyed.

The Foreign Minister of Mozambique, Pascoal Manual Mocumbi, asked for United Nations assistance in connection with the forthcoming elections in his country; the Secretary General promised to dispatch technical specialists to Mozambique immediately to see how they might assist in the electoral process.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali met with the Foreign Minister of Nigeria, Major-General Ike O.S. Nwachukwu, to discuss the situation in Somalia, to which Nigeria will be sending troops. They also discussed the situation in South Africa.

At a meeting with the Prime Minister of Angola, Pedro de Castro van Dunem, the Secretary-General discussed the forthcoming elections in that country and appealed to both the Government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) for calm during the period leading to the elections. At another meeting with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Begum Khaleda Zia, thanked the Secretary-General for the United Nations assistance in the situation created by the influx of refugees from Myanmar and asked that more should be done to help repatriate the refugees.

The Secretary-General also met with the Tunisian Prime Minister, Hamed Karoui, to discuss the situation in Libya and the implementation of Security Council resolution 731 (1992) as well as the question of Western Sahara. In addition, the Secretary-General met twice with the Foreign Minister of Indonesia and was due to meet with him again probably tomorrow.

Finally, the Secretary-General met today with the Prime Minister of India, Narasimha Rao, for a discussion of a number of subjects currently before the United Nations, in particular relating to the former Yugoslavia. Mr. Boutros-Ghali thanked the Prime Minister for the "loan" of General Satish Nambiar and praised his excellent performance as Commander of the United Nations Protection Force in Yugoslavia (UNPROFOR).

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Croatia has asked that the question of international help for that country - "to alleviate the consequences of war" -- should be considered by the forthcoming session of the General Assembly.

In a letter to the Secretary-General, dated 27 August, the Acting Permanent Representative of Croatia, Mario Nobilo, requested the addition of a new item on the Assembly's agenda, dealing with international cooperation and assistance to his country, to facilitate its recovery.

The Croatian representative said that as a result of "aggression by Serbian insurgents and the so-called Yugoslav People's Army", his country faced three major problems: the heavy burden of human casualties, material destruction and the tide of refugees and displaced persons. The toll in human lives was estimated at 4,200 dead and 20,000 wounded. The number of missing persons had been put at more than 18,000. Material damage, he said, had been estimated in the range of 40 billion United States dollars. Communication lines had been destroyed and the railroad system had suffered extensive damage.

On the question of refugees and displaced persons, the Croatian representative said his country was carrying a tremendous economic burden. It was providing food, medical assistance and accommodation for more than 270,000 persons displaced from occupied parts of Croatia, in addition to 360,000 refugees - mostly Moslems and Croats of Bosnian citizenship -- coming from Bosnia and Herzegovina.
Document:A/47/242

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The Security Council has agreed to a proposal from the Secretary-General to maintain the existing deployment and staffing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO).

Council President Li Daoyu (China) informed the Secretary-General, in a letter dated 31 August, that his report on the situation in Western Sahara had been brought to the attention of the Council and that it shared his views on the "necessity of the parties scrupulously abiding by the cease-fire and abstaining from any provocative behaviour endangering the settlement".

The Council also expressed its hope that both parties would extend their full cooperation to the Secretary-General and the Special Representative in their efforts to achieve speedy progress in the implementation of the plan. It also strongly urged the parties themselves to make extraordinary efforts to ensure the success of the plan.

The Secretary-General last week asked his Special Representative for Western Sahara, Sahabzada Yaqub-Khan, to begin a new round of talks with the Government of Morocco and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Saguia el-Hamra and Rio de Oro (POLISARIO).
Document S/24504

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In Geneva, the Human Rights Subcommission has deplored the 12 November 1991 incident at Dili in East Timor, which resulted in the deaths of civilians, including women and children, and called upon the Indonesian Government to cooperate fully with the efforts of the Secretary-General's representative.

The representative of Indonesia said his Government had cooperated with human rights organizations to investigate disappearances connected with the incident and had helped the families of the disappeared. He said the text was one-sided and did not reflect the significantly improved situation in the area.

The text on East Timor was one of 21 adopted by the Subcommission. Other texts dealt with such matters as the right to a fair trial, states of emergency, impunity of human rights violators, violations of the human rights of United Nations staff members, the privatization of prisons, the right to adequate housing, human rights and extreme poverty, and the effect of structural adjustment programmes on the realization of economic, social and cultural rights.

The Subcommission also acted on such questions as human rights and the environment, discrimination against HIV-infected people or people with AIDS, and the right to restitution, compensation and rehabilitation for victims of gross human rights violations.

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A three-day international meeting of non-governmental organizations concluded in Geneva on Friday, 28 August, by declaring that participants "unconditionally affirm the rights of self-determination, statehood and return of the Palestinian people".

In a Final Declaration, the Ninth United Nations International NGO Meeting on the Question of Palestine also demanded Israel's withdrawal from all Palestinian and Arab territories, including East Jerusalem, the Golan Heights and Southern Lebanon, and called for the official participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in the current Middle East peace process.

Participants called for the establishment of a United Nations force to protect Palestinians in the occupied territories and asked non-governmental groups dealing with the Palestine question to set up permanent monitoring and witness groups in the territories concerned to enhance public awareness and to pressure Governments to urge Israel to end the occupation.

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United Nations

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2 September 1992

W E D N E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- + Secretary-General meets with world leaders on last day of his official visit to Indonesia; reviews regional and other issues at news conference.
- + Security Council holds consultations on humanitarian situation in Iraq and follow-up to London Conference on Former Yugoslavia.
- + Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Jan Eliasson, to begin two-week trip on Wednesday, 9 September, to Somalia, Kenya, the Sudan, Djibouti and Zimbabwe to review humanitarian assistance programmes.
- + Today, flight number one thousand landed in Sarajevo carrying some 13 tons of relief supplies for some 450,000 residents in and around the city.
- + World Food Programme expands its relief aid to drought affected villagers in southern Madagascar.

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On the last day of his official visit to Indonesia, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali met today with a number of world leaders.

The Secretary-General informed the President of Namibia, Sam Nujoma, during their discussion of the situation in South Africa, of the intention of the United Nations to send observers there.

The Secretary-General thanked the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Hussain Nawaz Sharif, for that country's contribution to the United Nations peace keeping operations, particularly in Somalia.

At a meeting with President Soeharto of Indonesia, the Secretary-General and the President agreed to hold continuous consultations in order to enhance the cooperation between the United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement.

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In his discussions with the President of Cyprus, George Vassiliou, Mr. Boutros-Ghali reaffirmed the importance he attaches to the meetings to be held at Headquarters on 26 October, when direct talks between the two leaders on Cyprus will resume. At a further meeting today with the Prime Minister of Morocco, Abdellatif Filali, the Secretary-General discussed recent developments concerning Western Sahara.

After his meetings today in Jakarta, the Secretary-General held a press conference, and in reply to a question on the possibility of changing the composition of the Security Council, the Secretary-General said that such a change would need a revision of the United Nations Charter and that would require the agreement of the Council's five Permanent Members.

Asked about East-Timor, the Secretary-General said he had discussed the question with President Suharto, and they had agreed that during the forthcoming General Assembly the Secretary-General would invite the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Portugal to discuss the issue without preconditions.

On the peace process in Cambodia, the Secretary-General told correspondents that he had had a "positive and constructive talk" with Prince Norodom Sihanouk, and that there was political will among the different factions to reinforce the Paris Agreements and to cooperate with the United Nations.

Asked whether the United Nations could operate in Somalia, even though some of the parties had not agreed to United Nations presence in their territory, the Secretary-General replied that troops could be sent to other regions in Somalia where the parties had accepted the presence of the United Nations divisions, and that the United Nations would continue to hold negotiations with the other factions until an agreement was reached.

Concerning the ongoing Middle East peace talks, the Secretary-General said the United Nations was following them with great attention, and next week he would receive the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Israel to discuss with him the current negotiations.

Among the Secretary-General's other appointments today were meetings with the Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia, Vladislav Jovanovic; the Foreign Minister of Algeria, Lakhdar Brahimi; the President of Iran, Ali-Akbar Rafsanjani; the President of Kenya, Daniel Arap Moi; and the Foreign Minister of Egypt, Amre Moussa.

The Secretary-General leaves Indonesia tomorrow for Moscow and will be back in New York on Monday, 7 September.

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The Security Council held consultations this afternoon concerning the humanitarian situation in Iraq and the follow-up to the London Conference on Former Yugoslavia.

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Speaking to correspondents before the Council began its deliberations, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations, Sir David Hannay, said the President of the Council, Jose Ayala Lasso (Ecuador), would issue a Presidential statement concerning the situation in Iraq, supporting the efforts of the Secretary-General and Under-Secretary-General Jan Eliasson to maintain humanitarian activities throughout Iraq.

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A senior United Nations official is to visit five African countries to review humanitarian assistance programmes. During the two-week trip, which begins Wednesday, 9 September, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Jan Eliasson will go to Somalia, Kenya, the Sudan, Djibouti and Zimbabwe.

In Somalia, where he will be joined by the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), James Grant, and accompanied by officials of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Food Programme (WFP), Mr Eliasson will examine arrangements for the coordination of United Nations humanitarian efforts in that country. He will also review rehabilitation and reconstruction needs, to the extent feasible.

In Kenya, he will meet with government officials and organizations and individuals involved in humanitarian and refugee operations. Mr Eliasson will then visit the Sudan to review with all concerned the United Nations programme of humanitarian assistance to that country, Operation Lifeline Sudan. His talks will deal, in particular, with questions related to access to people in need as well as with the problem of displaced persons. While in Khartoum he will meet with representatives of non-governmental organizations and donors, and arrangements are being made for him to meet with parties involved in conflict in that country.

In Zimbabwe, Mr Eliasson is to address a seminar on disaster management training which will be attended government and other officials, and United Nations relief workers. They will review the drought situation in southern Africa, and at a meeting with United Nations resident coordinators in the drought-affected countries Mr Eliasson will take stock of the appeal launched by the United Nations last June in cooperation with the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC).

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The one thousandth flight of relief supplies to the besieged city of Sarajevo was carried out today by a United States C-130 cargo aircraft. At least nineteen countries have participated directly in the United Nations humanitarian airlift which began early in July. Today's flight carried some 13 tons of supplies for the estimated 450,000 residents in and around the city.

The airlift has so far delivered more than 12,000 tons of desperately needed food, medicine and other relief supplies donated by the European Community, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health

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Organisation (WHO) and many other countries and private agencies. The effort is being co-ordinated by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR).

There has been an average of 16 flights daily with a total of about 200 tons of supplies which, after unloading, are taken by UNHCR to five main warehouses in the city for distribution.

The High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata said the airlift was an example of the international community's determination to help the innocent victims of the war in ex-Yugoslavia. She paid tribute to those who have risked their lives in the relief efforts. Sarajevo remains under daily bombardment and sniping in the city's streets continues.

Despite the success of the airlift, UNHCR is concerned about the onset of winter in a few weeks' time when bad weather is likely to cause flight delays. UNHCR and its partners are stepping up the number of land convoys into Bosnia-Herzegovina. Already at least 5 trucks a day are bringing relief supplies to Sarajevo by road from the coastal city of Split.

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Particularly concerned about the alarming reports of malnutrition among young children in the areas affected by four years of consecutive drought in southern Madagascar, the World Food Programme (WFP) today announced an expansion of its emergency relief operations there.

The food aid is expected to cover the basic needs of 320,000 people for two months, in an area the Madagascar Government has declared a disaster zone. At least 830,000 people are affected by the drought, and the number is expected to swell to about 1 million before the end of the year. In June, medical surveys found that one in three children in southern Madagascar was severely malnourished.

Part of additional supplies of food aid will support two special feeding projects for 20,000 children in centres operated by the Medecins Sans Frontieres, Medecins du Monde, and Action Contre la Faim.

The WFP is expecting to receive donations from other international donors. To date, the European Community Germany, France, Italy and the World Bank have responded.

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United Nations

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3 September 1992

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Reports of Italian aircraft disappearing while on humanitarian flight from Split to Sarajevo confirmed by United Nations spokesman; UNHCR suspends humanitarian flights in area until fate of plane can be determined.
- + Urgent humanitarian needs for more than 2.7 million people affected by the crisis in former Yugoslavia will be focus of international follow-up meeting tomorrow, 4 September, in Geneva.
- + Security Council "deeply concerned" at situation of humanitarian programme in Iraq; particularly disturbed about Iraq's failure to ensure United Nations staff.
- + Security Council calls on all parties in former Yugoslavia to cooperate fully with Committee set up following London Conference.
- + Secretary-General begins official visit in Moscow where he will meet with President Boris Yeltsin and other Russian officials.
- + International Atomic Energy Agency clarifies position on Iraq's nuclear programme.

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A United Nations spokesman this morning confirmed press reports that an Italian aircraft had disappeared from radar screens while on a humanitarian flight from Split to Sarajevo. Radar contact with the J-22 plane was lost at 1.15 p.m. local time at some 25 to 30 kilometres south of Sarajevo airport.

The plane, which was carrying about 1000 pounds of blankets, had a crew of four and no passengers. At the time of the incident, no military activity was reported in the area.

A search of the area was being carried out by German and British planes to try to locate the missing aircraft and survivors, if any. United States "Chinook" helicopters were also involved in the search effort. In addition,

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three United Nations armoured personnel carriers and two ambulances had also gone to the area.

It was later announced that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) had suspended all humanitarian activity in the area until the fate of the missing plane could be determined.

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Humanitarian assistance for the 2.7 million people estimated to have been affected by the crisis in the former Yugoslavia will be discussed at a meeting in Geneva tomorrow (Friday) of representatives from more than 24 governments and international and non-governmental organisations.

It will be the second session of the Follow-up Committee, formed late in July at a meeting called by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). That meeting, convened to formulate a comprehensive humanitarian response to the ongoing conflict, endorsed a seven-point plan proposed by the High Commissioner, Sadako Ogata, who is chairman of the Follow-up Committee.

Tomorrow's meeting will review developments under that plan in recent weeks, receiving a report from the humanitarian assessment mission sent to the former Yugoslavia last month by UNHCR in collaboration with the Department of Humanitarian Affairs. At the meeting, a new consolidated appeal for funds, based on the needs described in the report of that inter-agency mission, will be launched on behalf of Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. The appeal will be to meet the most urgent humanitarian requirements, details of which will be presented by Mrs Ogata.

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The Security Council last night expressed deep concern at the situation of the Inter-Agency Humanitarian Programme in Iraq, including Iraq's failure to renew its Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations.

In a statement read out on behalf of the Council by its President, José Ayala Lasso (Ecuador), Council members said they were particularly disturbed by Iraq's continuing failure to ensure the safety of United Nations personnel and urged Iraq, "in the strongest possible terms", to cooperate with the United Nations.

The Council endorsed the Secretary-General's insistence upon appropriate field offices for United Nations agencies and programmes participating in humanitarian activities in Iraq and urged him to continue to use all resources at his disposal to help all those in need in that country.

The Memorandum of Understanding, which covers the United Nations humanitarian programme in Iraq, including the United Nations guards, was first signed in April 1991 and a subsequent Memorandum expired on 30 June 1992.

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The Council has earlier, in a statement of 17 July, expressed its concern at what it termed "the deteriorating conditions affecting the safety and well-being of United Nations personnel in Iraq.

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The Security Council has called on the parties concerned for their co-operation in efforts to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the situation in the former Yugoslavia following the summit meeting in London last week.

In a statement last night, Council President José Ayala Lasso (Ecuador) said they fully supported the principles adopted and agreements reached at the London stage of the International Conference. Council members, he said, noted with satisfaction the establishment of a framework in which an overall settlement of the crisis might be achieved.

The Council welcomed the setting up of a steering committee to direct working groups in the preparation of the basis for a general settlement and related measures. The steering committee is under the overall direction of the two permanent co-chairmen of the conference -- Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and British Prime Minister John Major who is current President of the Council of Ministers of the European Community.

Security Council members said they noted the commitments entered into by the parties and others concerned within the framework of the London Conference, and they stressed the importance of the full and rapid implementation of those commitments. They further noted the urgency of the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and called on the parties for their full cooperation with the co-chairmen of the steering committee in achieving a comprehensive settlement.

The Council shared the Secretary-General's hope that the political will shown in London would be quickly transformed into concrete actions, so that an overall political settlement of the crisis in the former Yugoslavia in all its aspects "may be achieved through a continuous and uninterrupted effort". They noted with satisfaction that follow-up work to the London conference would begin this week, and would be pursued in continuous session at the United Nations Office in Geneva.

The Steering Committee held its first meeting today in Geneva co-chaired by Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali arrived today in Moscow to begin a four-day official visit to the Russian Federation, during which he will meet with President Boris Yeltsin and other Russian officials and receive an honorary degree from Moscow University.

The Secretary-General will leave Moscow for New York on Monday, 7 September.

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Maurizio Zifferero, the leader of the current International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspection team in Iraq, today issued a clarification of recent news agency reports quoting him as saying that Iraq's nuclear programme "is at zero". According to the IAEA, the press reports were giving "a misleading impression" of Mr. Zifferero's understanding of the situation. He had not intended to issue a "clean bill of health" for Iraq in the nuclear sphere, the Agency said.

According to Mr. Zifferero's statement today, the IAEA inspectors had repeatedly visited Iraq's known nuclear-related sites. Buildings or specialized equipment which were not destroyed during the war and which the inspectors considered to be directly relevant to sensitive nuclear or especially to military nuclear activity had been destroyed on their instruction. However, the statement said, that did not exclude the possibility of further discoveries in the future.

The mapping of the Iraqi clandestine nuclear programme, which has involved fieldwork by 14 IAEA teams over many months, had been based on a compilation of intelligence information from various sources, Mr. Zifferero said, including satellites and detectors, supplied to the IAEA via the Special Commission set up by the Security Council regarding Iraqi disarmament. He pointed out that while no new knowledge had come to light recently, it was still too early to conclude that such would not be the case. In addition, he said, the Security Council had mandated the Agency in the nuclear sphere to conduct long-term surveillance in Iraq, which the Agency was planning to do.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

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4 September 1992

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Secretary-General launches \$434 million appeal for humanitarian assistance in former Yugoslavia.
- + Secretary-General arrives in Moscow for official visit; has talks with President Yeltsin and other leaders of the Russian Federation.
- + United Nations issues stamps to mark International Space Year.

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In a message to a meeting in Geneva of the committee formed at the initiative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to prepare a comprehensive humanitarian response to the ongoing conflict, the Secretary-General said he had been "increasingly concerned with the unfolding crisis and the expanding humanitarian tragedy in the former Yugoslavia".

An inter-agency mission sent to the affected areas to re-assess the emergency humanitarian requirements had concluded that more than 2.7 million persons were in need of emergency humanitarian assistance. Overall requirements amounted to more than \$1 billion. Subsequently it had been established that \$434 million would be required for "life-threatening priority needs" to be channelled through the United Nations system. The areas targeted for immediate relief were food, health services and shelter.

Appealing to the international community to respond promptly and generously to the challenge, Mr Boutros-Ghali said the needs were critical. Hundreds of thousands of refugees were facing the prospect of a harsh winter without adequate food and shelter.

In New York today, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Jan Eliasson said that with the onset of winter UNHCR was concerned to increase to the maximum extent possible the relief supplies delivered by land transport, which could handle a far greater volume than could be taken in by air. He noted that the ongoing airlift had been suspended following the tragic downing of an Italian aircraft yesterday.

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Mr Eliasson said the 2.7 million persons now estimated to be affected represented a seven-fold increase from the figure of 350,000 in November 1991, on the basis of which an earlier international appeal was made.

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Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali arrived in Moscow from Jakarta late last night, and had talks there today with President Boris Yeltsin and other leaders of the Russian Federation. A joint television appearance by the Secretary-General and President Yeltsin was planned.

On Monday the Secretary-General is to receive an honorary degree from Moscow University, before his return to New York.

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The United Nations postal service is issuing a series of stamps to commemorate the observance of 1992 as International Space Year. The issue of the stamps, with the theme "Mission to Planet Earth", was marked at a ceremony at U.N. headquarters today attended by two United States astronauts and students from the United Nations International School.

The astronauts - Henry Hartsfield and Richard Truly, who is also a former administrator of the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration - spoke of the human significance of space and the environment.

International Space Year is designed to foster global cooperation in space activities, with the support of the United Nations and a wide range of international and national organisations.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

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8 September 1992

T U R S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- + Secretary-General holds meetings in Moscow with Russian President and Foreign Minister; returns to New York after stop-over in Paris where he holds talks with French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas.
- + Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations, Marrack Goulding, reviews problems in carrying out mandate of UNPROFOR; Secretary-General to submit further progress report to Security Council on situation in former Yugoslavia.
- + Secretary-General calls for "determined and unequivocal leadership" in Angola during present delicate stage in peace process in that country and with elections imminent.
- + Iraq rejects "accusations" made in wake of threats against United Nations personnel in northern part of Iraq.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, on his way back from Moscow, stopped in Paris where he held a meeting this morning with the Foreign Minister of France, Roland Dumas. The Secretary-General and the Foreign Minister discussed Yugoslavia, Cambodia and various other conflict regions.

On Friday, 4 September, the Secretary-General held meetings in Moscow with President Boris N. Yeltsin of the Russia Federation and Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev. He also had a telephone conversation with Eduard Shevardnadze, Chairman of the State Council of Georgia.

The Secretary-General began the day by speaking on the telephone with Mr. Shevardnadze, who informed him of the accords that had been reached the previous evening between the Russian Federation, Georgia and representatives of Abkhazia. He asked the Secretary-General to send a mission to the region and to open a United Nations office in Georgia. The Secretary-General congratulated Mr. Shevardnadze on the signing of the accords and said that the

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United Nations would do all that it could to support them. He promised to send a mission of goodwill to Georgia in the next few days, and said that he would consider favourably the request for a United Nations office.

Later in the morning, the Secretary-General was received by President Yeltsin who expressed Russia's full political cooperation with the United Nations and, in particular, expressed support for "An Agenda for Peace" and for the reforms of the Organization undertaken by the Secretary-General. The President announced that Russia, despite its economic difficulties, would pay \$130 million to the Organization.

For his part, the Secretary-General thanked the President for Russia's cooperation with the United Nations, and for its participation in a number of United Nations peace-keeping operations. He referred, in particular to Yugoslavia, noting the useful role which Russia had also played at the London Conference. He said he was pleased to learn of Russia's efforts to meet its financial obligations to the United Nations, and hoped this would encourage other Member States to do likewise. He said that the United Nations would do all it could to provide technical assistance and advice to the Commonwealth of Independent States, and cited the decision taken earlier in the year to open six United Nations offices in those countries.

The Secretary-General said the United Nations would support Russia's efforts to help end conflicts in regions of the Commonwealth of Independent States, and recalled the two United Nations fact-finding missions that had been sent to Armenia and Azerbaijan. As for Moldova, he was pleased that the two fact-finding missions sent to that country had helped to calm the situation. With respect to Georgia, the Secretary-General commended President Yeltsin for Russia's role in helping to bring about a cessation of hostilities and had congratulated him on the signing of the accords. The Secretary-General shared the President's view regarding cooperation between the United Nations, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), and the Commonwealth of Independent States in conformity with Chapter VIII of the Charter.

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Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations, Marrack Goulding, told correspondents today that he spent last week in former Yugoslavia to inspect the four protected areas of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) and had noted the "remarkable progress" made by the Force in carrying out its mandate, since his last visit in May. Mr. Goulding discussed with UNPROFOR Force Commander Satish Nambiar "any problems" which there might be and how support could be provided. He also met the leaders of the various parties for a discussion of the need to for better cooperation with UNPROFOR. The Secretary-General would submit a further progress report on UNPROFOR's performance to the Security Council "in the near future".

Mr. Goulding said the most severe problem was that the demilitarization of the protected areas had become stuck in the last phase of the plan, which called for the demilitarization of the police. The Serbian authorities had

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decided to form special militias, often armed with mortars, which they called police. It had also been impossible to begin the return of refugees to their homes, he said.

Asked whether there had been a rethinking of the need for protection in view of the steady violence against United Nations relief efforts, Mr. Goulding said that problem was a matter of considerable concern. The Secretary-General's report would clearly state his proposal to strengthen UNPROFOR with the ability to provide such protection should the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) ask for it.

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Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali, has called for "determined and unequivocal leadership" in Angola during the present delicate stage in the peace process in that country and with elections imminent.

A United Nations official said today that the Secretary-General had received a message last week from the President of Angola, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, expressing concern that the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) faction had not been co-operating fully in the implementation of the Angola Peace Accords. President dos Santos had also expressed concern that among some Angolans there was "mistrust" over the effectiveness of the United Nations Verification Mission in Angola (UNAVEM II).

The official said the Secretary-General had welcomed a meeting yesterday between the President of Angola and the President of UNITA, Jonas Savimbi and was sending messages to both of them, on the need - during a "crucial and very delicate stage in their peace process" - for leadership to stem the recent spate of violent incidents, and to give confidence to the people that the results of the forthcoming elections would be respected.

The Secretary-General was also drawing attention to "some major unfinished tasks" which the government and UNITA should urgently complete - such as the demobilisation of their armies, the formation of new Angolan Armed Forces, control of weapons, the full control of the national territory by the central administration and the formation of a representative and impartial police force.

The official said the Secretary-General congratulated the Angolan people for their progress in recent months. The task now was to "complete the unfinished business of the peace process", ensuring that everyone who had registered was able to vote without intimidation of any kind.

On the concerns expressed by the Angolan President about the effectiveness of UNAVEM, Mr Boutros-Ghali said inquiries by his Special Representative for Angola, Margaret Anstee, on this matter almost always revealed widespread misunderstanding of the role of the UNAVEM. According to the Peace Accords, he noted, the Security Council's mandate for UNAVEM was not to organize or implement the cease-fire and electoral arrangements, but to observe and verify the monitoring process of the Angolan parties themselves.

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The Foreign Minister of Iraq, Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, has rejected "all direct or indirect accusations" made in the wake of threats against the United Nations personnel in the northern part of Iraq.

In a letter to the President of the Security Council, dated 4 September, the Iraqi Minister said Iraq assumed full responsibility for the safety of United Nations staff, but security measures could only be effective if the United Nations staff was "closely coordinated with the competent Iraqi authorities".

Iraq had "warned" the United Nations officials in charge that "some parties loyal to the Western countries", together with Iranian and Kurdish elements protected by those countries, sought to cause problems with the United Nations staff in order to "tarnish Iraq's image and justify the conspiracies against Iraq". "Iraqi citizens clearly feel resentment towards the United Nations staff, but nothing personal is meant", Mr. Al-Sahaf said. The Iraqi people would "feel well-disposed again only if the United Nations treats them in accordance with the principles of justice and equity ... by lifting the embargo and desisting from attacks on their dignity and interventions into the internal affairs of their country".

The Security Council on Wednesday, 2 September, expressed concern at the humanitarian situation in Iraq, and particularly Iraq's "continuing failure to ensure the safety of United Nations personnel". The Council urged Iraq, "in the strongest possible terms", to cooperate with the United Nations.
Document S/24520

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1222
9 September 1992

W E D N E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- + Two French soldiers killed and three others wounded by Bosnian Government forces in attack on UNPROFOR convoy at Sarajevo airport yesterday; Secretary-General deplores incident and extends his condolences to French Government and victims' families; Security Council to discuss situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina at meeting tonight.
- + United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees urges all parties in Yugoslavia to ensure safe passage for United Nations relief workers.
- + Secretary-General deplores loss of life in Ciskei during demonstration on Monday, 7 September; advance party of United Nations observers to travel to South Africa on Friday, 11 September, to establish mission called for by Security Council.
- + Anti-apartheid Committee expresses grave concern over killings in Ciskei, South Africa.
- + Secretary-General, addressing DPI Conference for non-governmental groups, calls for new approach to regional conflicts.
- + Security Council approves further increase in number of personnel to serve with United Nations Operation in Somalia.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today deplored the killing of two French soldiers and the wounding of three others in an attack by Bosnian Government forces on a convoy of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) as it was entering Sarajevo airport yesterday. The Secretary-General has extended his condolences to the French Government and to the families of the victims. A United Nations official said an investigation had been initiated to look into the circumstances of the incident and to draft a report.

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After consultations among Security Council members this afternoon, it was announced that the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina would be discussed in a formal meeting of the Council this evening.

According to a press release issued by UNPROFOR, yesterday's attack occurred when UNPROFOR's weekly convoy on its way from Belgrade to Sarajevo was attacked in full daylight by Bosnian Government forces as it entered Sarajevo airport. Both Presidential and Serb forces had been given full notification of the unarmed convoy's passage and timing. All its vehicles were clearly identifiable, with United Nations flags, markings and insignia.

The press release said the attack was the fourth in a recent series of deliberate attacks on UNPROFOR's personnel and vehicles during the past three weeks. All four attacks were deliberately perpetrated by Bosnian President forces, the statement said.

UNPROFOR Force Commander, General Satish Nambiar, wrote today to President Izetbegovic of Bosnia and Herzegovina regarding this most recent example of a deliberate attack on UNPROFOR's humanitarian presence by Presidential forces. He has called for the perpetrators, who must have been acting against orders, to be brought to immediate salutary justice.

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In a related development, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has urged all parties to the fighting in former Yugoslavia to respect the guarantees of safe passage and unimpeded access for humanitarian supplies that they signed in London less than two weeks ago.

In a statement issued on Sunday, 6 September, the High Commissioner, Sadako Ogata, said UNHCR was determined to ensure that the people who had been displaced by the terror and the warfare were not made to suffer even further.

The humanitarian airlift remained suspended for a third straight day Sunday as UNHCR officials awaited the results of the investigation into the crash Thursday of an Italian transport plane loaded with blankets. All four crew members engaged in the mercy mission were killed.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said today that he deeply deplored the loss of life which occurred in Ciskei on Monday, during a demonstration organised by the African National Congress (ANC).

In a press release issued at Headquarters, the Secretary-General also announced that an advance party of United Nations observers would travel to South Africa on Friday, 11 September, to establish the 50-member mission called for by the Security Council last month.

The Secretary-General noted that he had been authorised to deploy United Nations observers in South Africa to assist in strengthening the structures

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set up under the National Peace Accord in that country, in consultation with the relevant parties. In its resolution, the Council also invited international organizations such as the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), the Commonwealth and the European Community to consider deploying their own observers in South Africa in coordination with the United Nations.

The statement said the Chief of the United Nations Observer Mission to South Africa would be Angela King of Jamaica. The deputy chief of the mission, Ismat Steiner of Tanzania, would lead the advance part of thirteen observers, who would be assigned to Durban and Johannesburg.

The mission's headquarters will be in Johannesburg.

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The Special Committee against Apartheid today deplored the incident in Ciskei saying it was "appalled by the brutal killing" of at least 24 peaceful demonstrators by Ciskei soldiers at Bisho on 7 September.

In a statement, the Committee said that "such senseless killing" at this crucial juncture in South Africa's transition process, could not fail to undermine all progress so far made. The killings also threatened to stall further the already precarious process towards a peacefully negotiated new, non-racial and democratic South Africa, the statement said.

The Special Committee called on the South African authorities to assume immediate control of the Ciskei military, and demanded that an urgent investigation be initiated, in order to identify and bring to justice those found responsible for this act of violence.

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The Secretary-General this morning called for a stronger role for regional associations in support of the United Nations and the Charter, saying they could make a contribution to international peace and security.

In his statement to the annual conference of the Department of Public Information (DPI) for non-governmental organizations, he said that with the end of the cold war, there was a tendency to believe that conflicts in various regions may no longer pose a threat to international peace and security. While it was true, he said, that the international community could not step into every instance of violence that erupted around the world, "some disputes compel our attention".

As examples of cooperation between regional organizations and the United Nations, the Secretary-General cited Cambodia, where the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) was involved; the former Yugoslavia, where several European associations were active; and Somalia, where the United Nations worked with the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the League of Arab States, and the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

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The three-day NGO conference has as its theme "Regional Conflicts: Threats to World Peace and Progress". This afternoon it held a discussion of the Secretary-General's report to the Security Council earlier this year, "An agenda for peace", on preventive diplomacy, peace-making and peace-keeping. That report, issued in response to a summit meeting of the Council in January, contained proposals for enhancing the role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security.

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The Security Council has approved a further increase in the number of personnel to serve with the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM).

In a letter to the Secretary-General, Council President José Ayala Lasso (Ecuador) said Council Members agreed to the recommendation by the Secretary-General to establish three specialised units - estimated at up to 719 all ranks - to help provide the elaborate logistic, communications and medical support that would be needed.

The Secretary-General had asked the Council in a letter for urgent action on this further recommendation. He said logistic support arrangements were indispensable for the proper functioning of UNOSOM.

The Council approved on 28 August the Secretary-General's proposal to establish four zone headquarters in Somalia and to deploy four additional security units, each with a strength of up to 750 all ranks. He further recommended the establishment of the specialised support units that "an operation of this size and complexity would require".
Document: S/24531, S/24534

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1223

10 September 1992

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Security Council calls on Government of South Africa and parties and organizations involved in National Peace Accord in that country to co-operate fully with United Nations observers to be deployed shortly.
- + Security Council expresses satisfaction at outcome of recent meeting in Moscow between leaders of Russian Federation and Republic of Georgia to ease crisis situation in Abkhazia; Council welcomes Secretary-General's intention to send goodwill mission to that region.
- + Security Council strongly condemns Tuesday's "deliberate attack" which cost lives of two French soldiers serving with the United Nations Protection Force in Yugoslavia.
- + Human Rights Commission Rapporteur urges halt to aggression in Sarajevo and calls for international effort to save city from "holocaust".
- + International Monetary Fund Official terms past year "historic" as States of former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe become members thus moving Fund towards goal of universal membership.
- + President of Bosnia and Herzegovina calls for measures to ensure implementation of declarations and undertakings given at recent London conference on former Yugoslavia.

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The Security Council has called on the Government of South Africa and the parties and organizations involved in the National Peace Accord in that country to co-operate fully with the United Nations observers to be deployed in South Africa shortly.

In a statement today on behalf of the Council, its President José Ayala Lasso (Ecuador), said the Council deplored the recent killing of 28 demonstrators and the wounding of nearly 200 more by security elements in South Africa last Monday. He said Council members once again emphasized the responsibility of the South African authorities for the maintenance of law and

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order, and called on the authorities for all measures to end the violence and protect the right of all South Africans to take part in peaceful political activity, without fear of intimidation or violence,

The statement said other relevant regional and inter-governmental organizations should consider deploying their own observers in South Africa - in coordination with the United Nations team and with the structures set up under the National Peace Accord - in order to facilitate the peace process.

* * *

The Security Council today expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the recent meeting in Moscow between the leaders of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Georgia to ease the crisis situation in Abkhazia.

In a statement issued after consultations among Council members, during which Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali briefed the Council on the Moscow meeting, the Council President commended the measures for a settlement in Abkhazia which were envisaged in the Final Document produced at the meeting. According to the statement, the Council called for an urgent political settlement of the conflict by peaceful means, and welcomed the resumption of the normal functioning of the legitimate authorities in Abkhazia.

The Council also noted the Secretary-General's intention to send a goodwill mission to the region, and asked him to report to the Council periodically on developments in Abkhazia

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The Security Council last night strongly condemned the recent "deliberate attack" which cost the lives of two French soldiers serving with the United Nations Protection Force in Yugoslavia (UNPROFOR).

In a statement read out on behalf of the Council by its President, José Ayala Lasso, Council members said Tuesday's attack, along with other serious incidents, underlined the urgent need for reinforcing the security and protection of United Nations personnel in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Council expressed its readiness to "adopt without delay measures to this end".

The Council's action follows an attack on Tuesday by Bosnian Government forces on a UNPROFOR convoy as it was entering Sarajevo airport. According to UNPROFOR officials, the attack occurred in full daylight when UNPROFOR's weekly convoy was on its way from Belgrade to Sarajevo. Both Presidential and Serb forces had been given full notification of the unarmed convoy's passage and timing. All its vehicles were clearly identifiable, with United Nations flags, markings and insignia.

In Zagreb today, the Co-chairmen of International Conference on former Yugoslavia, Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance, met with the President of Croatia, Franjo Tudjman, for a discussion of humanitarian issues, including the problem of thousands of detainees held in Serb detention centers in north west

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Bosnia. On the political front, Mr. Vance and Lord Owen urged cooperation by all sides in implementating the United Nations peace plan as well as vigorous follow-up to the agreements endorsed by all parties at the London Conference in late August. The Co-chairmen emphasized in their talks the need for respect for the peace-keepers of UNPROFOR, who have suffered exceptionally high casualties for a United Nations force.

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The Human Rights Commission's Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in former Yugoslavia, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, has appealed to all those committing acts of aggression in Sarajevo to immediately halt the use of weapons and has called on the international community "do their utmost to save the city from a holocaust".

In a statement issued in Geneva yesterday, the Special Rapporteur, who visited Sarajevo on 24 August, said he was deeply concerned about the worsening of the situation in the city. He said he considered it his duty not only to report about "the continuous perpetration of most serious crimes", but also to alert the international community.

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The past year, in many respects, was an historic one for the International Monetary Fund (IMF), an official of the Fund told correspondents at a briefing yesterday at Headquarters to mark the publication of the Fund's annual report. As the States of the former Soviet Union applied for membership, the IMF had for the first time moved towards the goal of universal membership which was the objective of its founding fathers. When all current applications were completed, the officials said, membership in the fund would have increased to include 178 countries.

According to the report, for the developing countries there had been encouraging gains in output in Asia and the Western Hemisphere, with Sub-saharan Africa showing a modest growth. For the Eastern European countries, he said there was a sharp drop in output. The report documented the IMF's lead role in working to transform the centrally planned system of the former Soviet Union into separate and market-oriented economies, including the provision of technical assistance, policy advice and design of economic programmes.

The report showed that new resource commitments rose to about \$12.5 billion compared with about \$8 billion in 1990 and 1991. At the end of April 1992, a record number of 53 countries had IMF-supported programmes in place. The official noted that the total of IMF's usable resources had dropped to about \$30 billion from \$34 billion the previous year and was projected to decline rapidly in the near future.

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The President of Bosnia and Herzegovina has called for measures to ensure implementation of the undertakings given at the recent London conference on the situation in the former Yugoslavia.

In a letter to the President of the Security Council, dated 9 September, President Alija Izetbegovic said the "aspirations, declarations and undertakings" made in London were valueless without the means to hold violators to account. Evidence must be produced to convince the world of the need for concerted and sustained action against the aggressors.

Calling for the joint United Nations-European Community working group to take all appropriate measures, Mr Izetbegovic said the means were available. He cited remote satellite sensing and the use of fixed wing and rotary aircraft as ways of providing "incontrovertible evidence in meticulous detail" of the topography of the whole of Bosnia and Herzegovina and adjoining territories

Document: /S24538

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1224
11 September 1992

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Secretary-General calls for major enlargement of United Nations Protection Force in former Yugoslavia, so that it can safeguard delivery of relief supplies.
- + Secretary-General decides to send goodwill mission to Georgia to follow up on recent agreement and to explore possibility of establishing United Nations presence in that region.
- + Secretary-General to send fact-finding mission to Tashkent, Uzbekistan, this weekend.
- + Secretary-General tells United Nations staff that he has made it clear to Member States that, unless security is ensured, staff will not be able to fulfill their duties and the missions entrusted to the United Nations may be jeopardized.
- + Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Jan Eliasson, leads United Nations delegation to Somalia, to review efforts to ease famine emergency in which 200 people are said to be still dying every day.
- + Secretary-General welcomes transmission of draft chemical weapons convention to General Assembly.

* * *

Proposals to enlarge the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in the former Yugoslavia, to enable it to help safeguard the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Sarajevo and other parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina, were made today in a report to the Security Council by Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

The Secretary-General recommends the addition to UNPROFOR of four or five infantry battalion groups; a transport battalion of some 500 all ranks with 100 trucks and an adequate maintenance capacity, and extra medical, engineering and communications support together with 80 more United Nations military observers and about 80 civilian staff members.

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The task of UNPROFOR under its enlarged mandate would be to support the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to deliver humanitarian relief supplies throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina, and to provide protection for the convoys when UNHCR - after consulting UNPROFOR - considered such protection necessary.

The transport battalion to be added to UNPROFOR would be available for the delivery of relief supplies along routes determined to be particularly difficult. In other cases, UNHCR trucks with civilian drivers would constitute the convoy, but would be escorted by UNPROFOR military vehicles and personnel. The Secretary-General said it should remain UNHCR's responsibility to determine relief priorities and delivery routes and schedules, and to coordinate requests from other agencies wishing to join UNPROFOR-protected convoys.

Noting that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had expressed concern about the safety of civilians released from detention camps while being taken to places of refuge in neighbouring countries, the Secretary-General said the expanded mandate and enlarged strength of UNPROFOR would enable the force to provide some protection for convoys of released detainees. This would be subject to arrangements between the ICRC and the force commander.

In providing protective support services, the report said, the UNPROFOR troops concerned would follow normal peace-keeping rules of engagement. They would be authorised to use force in self-defence, and this could be deemed to include "situations in which armed persons attempt by force to prevent United Nations troops from carrying out their mandate". The Secretary-General said these considerations were particularly relevant in the current tense situation in the proposed area of operations.

On the financial implications of his new proposals, should they be approved by the Security Council, the Secretary-General said his recommendations were based on the assumption that such additional resources would be provided at no cost to the United Nations, and that the contributing countries, or other United Nations member states on a voluntary basis, would cover the additional administrative expenses incurred by the Organisation. He said he had made this clear in consultations with member states who had expressed an interest in contributing military personnel, equipment and logistic support to UNPROFOR. It would be necessary to confirm that sufficient funds were available before the additional troops could be put in place.

Document S/24540

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A United Nations official announced today that the Secretary-General would send a goodwill mission to Georgia as follow-up to the 3 September agreement between the Governments of the Russian Federation and Georgia, as well as representatives of Abkhazia. The Mission will also explore the possibility of establishing a United Nations presence in Georgia. The

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mission, which will depart this weekend, will be led by Mr. Gustave Feissel, Director in the Department of Political Affairs.

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In a second announcement today, the official said the Secretary-General would be sending a fact-finding mission to Tashkent in connection with the recent developments in Central Asia and at the request of the Government of Uzbekistan.

The mission, which will leave this weekend, will be headed by Raymond Sommereyns, Director of the Department for Political Affairs.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali told United Nations staff today, in a statement delivered on the occasion of Staff Day, that he had made it clear to Member States that, unless security was ensured, staff would not be able to fulfill their duties and the missions entrusted to the United Nations might be jeopardized. He added that he was making every possible effort to obtain the release of colleagues who were either detained or imprisoned in violation of the Convention on Privileges and Immunities.

On the issue of the restructuring of the Organization, the Secretary-General said he was fully aware that the process of change was an unsettling one. He noted that this was a unique opportunity to build a stronger, more independent Secretariat where the best traditions of public service were combined with modern management practices.

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Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Jan Eliasson, who is on a two-week visit to five African countries, arrived in Somalia yesterday to review the ongoing efforts to ease the famine emergency in that country. He is accompanied by James Grant, the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and senior representatives of the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

At the start of their three-day visit to Somalia, the delegation visited the hospital and feeding centres in the famine-stricken town of Bardhere. The United Nations representatives were told that food aid deliveries to the town were proceeding smoothly. They then travelled to a nearby area where thousands of destitute and starving people continue to gather in search of assistance and where, despite expanded food aid, at least 200 people, mostly children, are still dying daily.

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The delegation held a meeting with representatives of United Nations and non-governmental agencies at the port of Mogadishu, which reopened today after being closed since 28 August following an attack, and the looting of fuel, relief food and trucks.

Earlier this week Mr Eliasson and his team visited Kenya. On Sunday they begin their mission, on behalf of the Secretary-General, to Ethiopia and Sudan.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today welcomed the announcement that the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva has concluded its 1992 session with an agreement on the draft convention banning chemical weapons and the transmission of the completed text to the forthcoming session of the General Assembly.

According to a statement issued by the Secretary-General's Spokesman, the draft convention is the result of many years of multilateral negotiation and offers the international community the long awaited opportunity to eliminate completely a whole category of weapons of mass destruction. The Secretary-General has expressed the hope that all states will give the draft convention their most serious consideration with a view to achieving the widest possible acceptance when it is formally opened for signature.

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